

March 1, 2010

Dear EMS Providers:

The Nebraska EMS/Trauma Program has a limited number of Nebraska Ambulance Rescue Service Information System (NARSIS) paper forms currently available to ambulance services who do not utilize electronic patient care data collection. These forms will be rationed to those licensed ambulance services upon their request. There will be no more paper NARSIS forms provided by the EMS/Trauma Program once all these forms are distributed on a limited basis. This decision was made to begin the process of moving Nebraska EMS forward in meeting the 2015 national goal of having paperless patient medical records and keep pace with other Nebraska healthcare providers in meeting this goal.

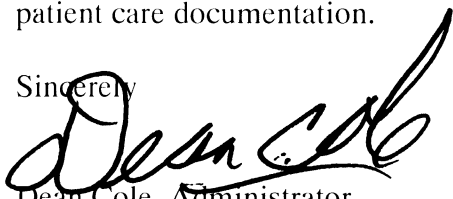
The EMS/Trauma Program encourages ambulance services to utilize the free web based (E-NARSIS) patient care data collection system to replace the paper NARSIS form. Electronic entry of patient care data will help to improve the quality of patient care data, improve submission times for the data and will meet the national goal of having all patient health records paperless by 2015. The EMS/Trauma staff will be more than happy to schedule training or demonstrate the software at your department when convenient for your members. Please feel free to contact your regional coordinator to schedule a meeting or answer questions you may have.

If your department decides to continue to use the paper form as a patient care data record, it has three options:

- Access the paper NARSIS form on this website: <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/ems/emsindex.htm>. Go to the right hand column, click "Patient Care Documents" and make copies for your department to use and submit as a patient care data record to DHHS Office of Health Statistics.
- Access the paper NARSIS form on the website and use the form you printed as a template to print your own paper NARSIS forms.
- Create your own paper form that lists the 26 required patient data sets listed in Statutes, Rules & Regulations relating to: Emergency Medical Services Title 172 NAC 12 section 12-003.04K1 for BLS services and section 12-004.04H3a for ALS services.

The EMS/Trauma Program will continue to provide the pre-printed postage paid envelopes to mail your completed forms to DHHS Office of Health Statistics for a limited time. You will need to contact the Lincoln office at 800-422-3460 ext 24 to order those envelopes and remaining printed NARSIS forms instead of the Kearney Regional Office. Please feel free to contact your regional coordinator, Doug Fuller 800-422-3460 Ext. 25 or Carla Becker, 800-422-3460 Ext. 34 if you have detailed questions about E-NARSIS or this new program policy. The EMS/Trauma Program staff is looking forward in working with you to move Nebraska EMS forward to the next level of providing patient care documentation.

Sincerely,



Dean Cole, Administrator

Nebraska EMS/Trauma Program

800-422-3460 ext 23 or 402-471-0124